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FARM NEWS

C.W.S. CROP Program To Be Expanded This Year

Blueprints were drafted last week for the 1954 appeal in Michigan of the Church World Service -- CROP program at a meeting of leading state and local church officials, held at the Union Building, Michigan State College.

During the past year most of the contributions received by CWS-CROP in Michigan have been used, it was disclosed at the meeting, for shipping United States Government-held surplus commodities, mostly dried milk. This year, however, there is to be a great expansion of the surplus foods program in which grains, cotton and corn products, as well as dairy products, will be channeled to hungry people overseas. It was reported that each dollar contributed will deliver approximately $20.00 worth of food.

The committee agreed unanimously that the program be expanded to give all people of good will an opportunity to share.

United Church Women disclose that Michigan Councils have already raised $5,600.00 for shipping government surplus food overseas through CWS-CROP. This was raised as their silver anniversary gift.

MSC Keeps 120 Cows In Six Stalls; In Theory

How does the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station keep 120 cows in six stanchions?

This doesn't really happen -- but for tests, it amounts to the same thing, with three sets of identical twins. One set of these twin heifers is equal to 40 cows for test purposes. Identical traits cut down on the work of adjusting figures.

One set was tested with one twin on hay alone and the other on hay and corn silage. The one on hay stood out in milk production at first, until its bodily reserve wore down. Then the twin on hay and corn silage took over and produced three times as much as its twin eating hay only.

Even if Michigan State College dairy scouts have trouble finding identical twin calves and they cost a bit more, feeding six is easier on the tax budget than 120 would be.

Bloat Cases In Cattle All Found To Be 'Frothy'

All bloat cases in cattle may be "frothy bloat" in the opinion of Dr. Carl F. Huffman, Michigan State College dairy nutrition researcher.

"We have never found a cow that died of bloat that didn't have froth on top of the gas," he explains.

A good saliva flow is the big preventer of bloat, notes Dr. Huffman. Cows need some grass to "tickle" their palates.

Redbud, Dogwood Blooms To Sprout In Mid-May

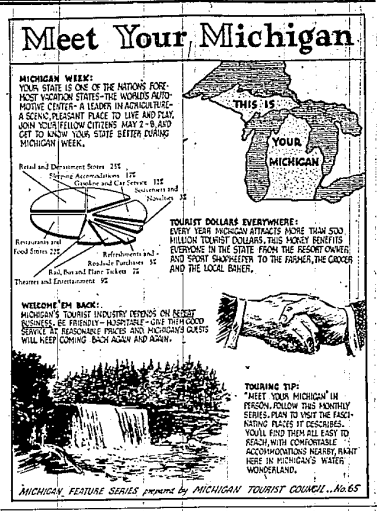
The spring flower season in Huron - Clinton Metropolitan Authority parks will come to a climax in mid-May with the blooming of redbud groves in Lower Huron Metropolitan Park near Belleville and dogwood in Kensington Metropolitan Park near New Hudson.

These wild flowering trees are carefully protected and are an annual delight to motorists, hikers and photographers.

The authority's two staff naturalists, William F. Hopkins and Charles Damm, are being signed up far in advance for conducting nature tours for organized groups.

Feed makes up more than 60 per cent of the cost of raising broilers, point out poultrymen at Michigan State College. Don't use it for litter.

Meet Your Michigan



Judges Named For Selection Of Soil Conservation Award Winners In State

Four Michigan men prominent in conservation have been selected to be the judges who will determine the state's winners in an annual national soil conservation awards program, it was announced by the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, sponsors of the program. The program currently is in its seventh year and this marks the fifth year Michigan districts and farmers have participated.

The Michigan judges will be: Dale Hall, deputy director, Michigan Department of Agriculture, chairman; Frank Suggitt, head of the department of land and water conservation; Farley Tubbs, chief of the education division, Michigan Department of Conservation; and Ferris Leach, president of the Michigan Association of Soil Conservation Districts.

The outstanding farmer from the Michigan district selected as best in the competition and one member of the first place district governing body of the state will be rewarded with a vacation trip to Arizona in December as guests of the sponsor. They will also receive, at the regional meeting of the National Association of Soil Conservation Districts this year, bronze plaques as a permanent symbol of their achievements in conservation.

Competition in the current program ends on April 30. Names of winners selected by the judges will be announced in July. Score sheets for consideration in the current program should be submitted to R. G. Hill, executive secretary of the Michigan state soil conservation committee at East Lansing, and must be filed not later than May 15.

BUTTER GRADED BY GOVERNMENT TO HELP HOUSEWIVES

Quality in butter is based on such things as flavor, texture and aroma. It is difficult for people who aren't experts to tell the difference between butter that is good and that which is the very best.

The homemaker, however, has the assistance of government experts when buying butter. If she will look for the government shield on the carton or inside the carton she'll find a letter C, B, A or AA, indicating the score, or quality of the butter.

Most of the butter on the market scores 89 or 90. That is Grade C or Grade B. If it is better than ordinary, in flavor, aroma and appearance, it may earn a score of 92, Grade A. And the very best is graded 93 score. That is given the Grade AA.

Only about one pound in eight qualifies as AA, but there is usually plenty of Grade A butter on the market. The price, of course, goes up with the score.

To help you get the quality butter that you want, look for the government label and the letters AA, A, B, or C. Almost all butter is good -- but some is better than others.

FARM CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 7, Lenawee County Beef Tour.

May 8, Home Economics Alumni Day and Parents Day, Michigan State College.

May 8, Michigan Section, American Society of Agricultural Engineers, Michigan State College.

May 10 - 14, Michigan 4-H Club Agents Conference at Michigan State College.

John Clappison Sells Insurance

Cow's Peak Period Key To Production

Although weighing milk from each cow in your herd pays off, you can tell fairly accurately what your cow is producing without scales.

C. R. Hoglund, a Michigan State College agricultural economist, says you can use the amount of milk a cow produces shortly after freshening -- her peak period -- to figure how much she will give in a year.

A cow that gives you three gallons per day will produce only about 6,000 pounds of milk a year. That kind of a cow, Hoglund points out, won't pay her keep this year. An extra gallon per day at the cow's peak, however, will add 2,000 pounds to the lactation period. But she still wouldn't pay a high labor wage to her owner.

Hoglund suggests that a cow producing five or more gallons of milk per day at her peak should be the goal of every dairy farmer. That kind of cow will return a fair profit this year.

The economist figures that the average Michigan cow gave her owner about 55 cents per hour for his labor and management last year. That was when 3.6 test milk averaged $3.80 per hundredweight. But for the same kind of milk this year, prices are expected to average about $3.30 per hundredweight. That means the farmer will get only 20 cents per hour for his labor and management. And those farmers who are receiving as little as $3 per hundredweight for milk this year, Hoglund asserts, will be working without pay if they have average cows.

Never has the dairyman had a bigger reason to cull out his below-average cows, Hoglund declares, and cull cows will bring a higher slaughter price now than they will this summer.

Whatever Your "Line" — A Few Lines on the Classified Pages Will Get Results, Phone 3000 - 3001

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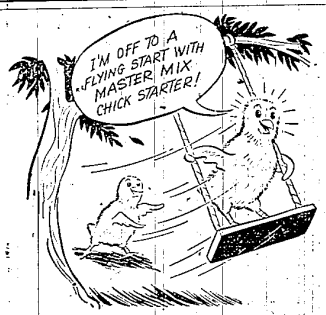

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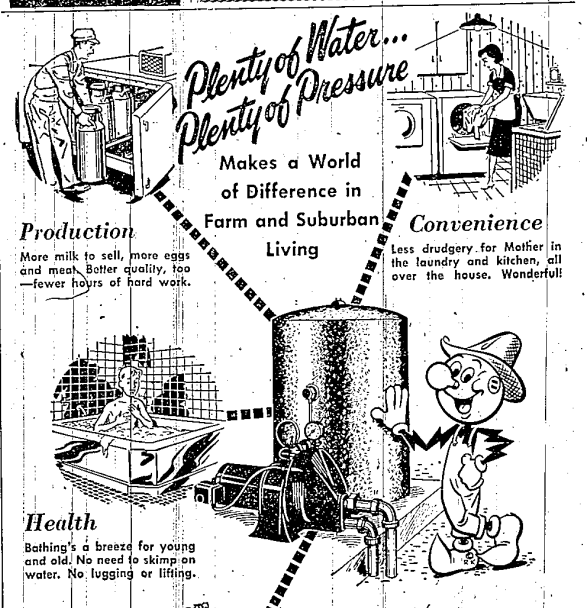

May is a good month to check up on your water system's capacity and efficiency. You can get plenty of practical aid from your Edison Farm Service Advisor. He's an expert on proper size pumps and motors. Just call, write or visit any Edison office.

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